

TOBB President M. Rifat Hisarcıkıoğlu:

## We should reawake the public administration reform

New technologies have been changing our lives. We are in the middle of a transformation process and we don't really know in which direction to go. This being the case almost everyone focuses on automation. Because it's the most concrete element that we can understand. When the focus is automation, everybody started to talk about the effects of robotics on labor market. And with such perspective one can conclude that technologic improvement is not a good thing.

If 20th century is a century of central authority, 21st century is the century of decentralization. The characteristic of this technological transformation is decentralization. But Turkey is still very centralist. If we can't understand what Wikipedia means today, we won't be able to grip how block chain will change our lives in the future. We can't address issues of 21st century with the reflexes we had from 20th century. If governing capacity and approach is from 20th century, we will only watch the 4th industrial revolution from a distance and gossip about it. So it would be useful that we revoke the public administration reform again and design it.



## Employment solid! / sound?

Companies, cities and sectors who increased the employment they create at most, received their awards at

"Employment Council and the Employment Mobilization" Award Ceremony hosted by President Recep Tayyip Erdogan,

co-organized by the Ministry of Labor and Social Security and the Turkish Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges.

Speaking at the ceremony TOBB President M. Rifat Hisarcıkıoğlu stated their continued commitment in investing Turkey's future and said "Today we trust much more in our country and society as business world. We take braver steps."

TOBB President Hisarcıkıoğlu added: "Fortunately we showed a tremendous effort during the whole year in sovereignty. You have all shareholders of our business world in this hall right now. Thank God we are rewarded for our efforts and experiencing fruitfulness. By doing that we recorded a historical success in employment."

TOBB President Hisarcıkıoğlu reminded that TOBB initiated a national campaign with the "Employment solid" slogan and underlined that this mobilization campaign provided jobs and earnings for millions of people; companies resisted all domestic and foreign related negativities during the mobilization campaign.



## “Visa requirements among Islamic countries should be eased”

**T**urkish Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges (TOBB) President M. Rifat Hisarcıkıođlu attended the 33rd meeting of Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (COMCEC) organized in Istanbul Congress Center.

TOBB President Hisarcıkıođlu underlined the importance President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan always gives to the issues Islamic countries deal with and said “He always backed the rights of

our brothers and our common values in problematic regions especially Palestine, Somalia and Rohingya. He always made the biggest effort to promote the collaboration among Islamic countries and strengthen solidarity.”

TOBB President M. Rifat Hisarcıkıođlu spoke as follows: “Turkey made a significant progress under the leadership of our Honorable President. As Islamic business world our expectation is deregulation of visa requirements among Islamic countries at least for businessmen.”

## “Edremit, a hub for tourism agriculture and commerce”



**T**OBB President M. Rifat Hisarcıkıođlu paying visits to Ayvalık and Burhaniye visited Edremit Commodity Exchange and Edremit Chamber of Commerce. Welcomed by Commodity Exchange Chairman Tarkan Denizer and other board members with flowers, TOBB President Hisarcıkıođlu toured the Commodity Exchange building and gave a book to Denizer as present.

Denizer explained the work Commodity Exchange has been doing and gave TOBB President Hisarcıkıođlu a curative olive oil for respiratory track as a present.

Attending a consultation meeting organized at Edremit Chamber of Commerce, TOBB President M. Rifat Hisarcıkıođlu stated that Edremit is a brand city and has a huge potential. Hisarcıkıođlu said “Edremit is a hub for tourism, agriculture and commerce as well. It’s location is enviable.”

TOBB President Hisarcıkıođlu told that Edremit Chamber of Commerce makes significant efforts regarding services.



## Gulf countries rushing to Trabzon to invest



Having a say in international transit trade with its transportation network, exports reaching to 341 thousand dollars and imports 619 thousand dollars, Trabzon is becoming the investment hub of Turkey as well as region.

Trabzon Chamber of Commerce and Industry Chairman M. Suat Hacisalihoğlu stated that the city contributes to projects that will carry Turkey towards its 2023 goals and says "We want to increase the brand value of Trabzon by producing high-tech innovative products which our economy needs".

Trabzon Commodity Exchange Chairman Eyyüp Ergan says "We raise the productivity per unit and set an example for Turkey. Trabzon's priority should be tourism and trade to become a brand city."

## We're at the bottom of the ladder regarding "e-trade"!

Retail e-trade volume reaching 17.5 billion Turkish Liras, continues to grow exponentially. It is expected that the share of global retail e-trade volume among the global retail sales will reach 10% for the first time. Internet usage plays an important role in this increase among emerging economies, particularly China.

A report prepared by eMarketer revised global retail sales volume for 2016-2021 period due to sharp depreciation of many currencies against dollar. According to a study ran by TÜBİSAD and ETİD, increasing internet penetration and smart phone utilization, Turkey's e-trade market reached a size of 30.8 billion Turkish Liras for 2016. Retail expenditures among those became 17.5 billion Turkish Liras.

